

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ACDA-19 AID-20 EB-11 CIAE-00

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RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 EA-11 NEA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5453

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 6651

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA GR

SUBJ: KEY ISSUES AT 29TH UNGA

REF A. STATE 184584 B. STATE 199150

1. POLITICAL COUNSELOR AND EMBOFF REVIEWED NUMBER KEY ISSUES SEPTEMBER 11 WITH MFA DIRECTOR PETROPOULOS (INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND CONFERENCES) RELEVANT TO 29TH UNGS. (SEPTELS COVER KOREAN AND KHMER CREDENTIALS.) ITEM BY ITEM DISCUSSION UNNECESSARY, ESPECIALLY SINCE AS NATO MEMBER GOG REPRESENTATIVES PARTICIPATED IN BRUSSELS CONSULTATIONS. MOREOVER, GOG DELEGATION HAS SUBSTANTIAL DEGREE OF FLEXIBILITY IN DEALING WITH ISSUES RAISED IN NEW YORK, AND MFA OFFICIALS HERE CLEARLY HAVE NO DEFINITIVE POSITIONS ON ANY ITEM AT THIS TIME.

2. POLITICAL COUNSELOR INITIATED DISCUSSION BY DESCRIBING GENERAL U.S. POSTURE AS SET FORTH IN INTRODUCTION TO REFTEL A, EXPLAINING CHANGES MOTIVATED IN PART BY RESULTS OF SPECIAL UN SESSION HELD LAST SPRING. PETROPOULOS OFFERED NO COMMENT BUT INDICATED AS PARTICIPANT AT THAT GA HE UNDERSTOOD AND APPRECIATED OBSERVATIONS RELATED TO
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SPECIAL UNGA SESSION.

3. IN ADDITION TO KOREAN AND KHMER QUESTIONS COUNSELOR MENTIONED IRANIAN ITEM ON MIDDLE EAST NUCLEAR FREE ZONE (REFTEL A, PARA 18). PETROPOULOS PLEADED IGNORANCE, BUT EXPRESSED THANKS FOR BEING ALERTED TO ITEM SINCE HE RECONIZED GOG MIGHT BE APPROACHED BY IRAN OR OTHER CO-SPONSORS. POL COUNSELOR NOTED THAT SINCE TURKEY REPORTEDLY BEING SOUGHT AS CO-SPONSOR GOG MIGHT HAVE INTEREST IN MATTER.

4. TO QUESTION WHETHER PETROPOULOS WISHED TO RAISE ANY SPECIAL MATTERS, HE REPLIED IN NEGATIVE, NOTING THAT MOST GA AGENDA ITEMS "TRADITIONAL IN NATURE." HE AGREED WITH EMBOFF' OBSERVATION THAT SUCH KEY INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS AS CYPRUS AND ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE NOT APPROPRIATE FOR GA IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. EMBOFFS UNDERSCORED POINT THAT GA DISCUSSION OF ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUES AT THIS TIME LIKELY TO BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE EXERCISE IN POLEMICS. PETROPOULOS AGREED.

5. EMBOFFS TOOK OCCASION TO PROVIDE LIST OF USGADEL AS JUST ANNOUNCED. PETROPOULOS SAID HE WOULD GIVE EMBASSY LIST OF GOG UN DELEGATION WITHIN NEXT DAY OR SO. HE CONFIRMED THAT FM MAVROS WOULD ARRIVE IN NEW YORK SEPTEMBER 21 WHERE HE WOULD REMAIN SHORT WHILE BEFORE LEAVING FOR ONE OR TWO DAYS "DUE TO COMMITMENTS IN EUROPE". HE WOULD THEN RETURN BEFORE END OF MONTH. AS TO HOW LONG MAVROS WOULD REMAIN AT UNGA, PETROPOULOS STATED "IT DEPENDS ON DEVELOPMENTS."
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